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01 April 2020

Attorney General Ken Paxton
Office of the Attorney General
PO Box 12548
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Dear Attorney General Paxton,

I applaud and fully support your statement this week regarding the urgent necessity of postponing all non-essential medical procedures, including abortion.

As Texas and the rest of the nation continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, it is of the utmost importance that all clinics, including Planned Parenthood, take into consideration the seriousness of this pandemic, and postpone all elective procedures. Continuing to schedule and perform abortions, which have not been deemed essential by the State of Texas, threaten our communities by utilizing valuable personal protective equipment (PPE) and the increased risk of exposure arising from procedural complications.

It is my understanding that, as of March 25, 2020, all nine Planned Parenthood Abortion Services Centers in Texas remain open. This includes the Planned Parenthood Abortion Services Center located in the 17th Congressional District in Waco, Texas. In response to the growing threat of COVID-19, I request that you require all Planned Parenthood clinics across Texas to cease to perform all elective abortion procedures during the term of the COVID-19 emergency.

At a time when our nation must come together and pool all resources to fight this pandemic, I strongly recommend that the abortion industry to join others in our Texas communities by transferring their PPE and other medical supplies to local hospitals. Elective abortion procedures will only succeed in stretching hospital resources and doctors even thinner than they currently are as patients experiencing complications would be sent to overburdened emergency rooms adding dangerous congestion.

Factually speaking, Abortions are not even considered “essential” during standard operations, with 85% of obstetricians and gynecologists reporting they do not offer this service. Why now, during a global pandemic, should we alter the status quo for a non-essential procedure that threatens the safety of our medical professionals and patients through the unnecessary use of PPE and emergency room supplies.

Attorney General Paxton, once again, I fully support your efforts to direct Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers to suspend all elective abortion procedures during the COVID19 emergency.

With great respect,



Bill Flores
Member of Congress

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